

Write With Style!

Sentence Style Structures for Kids to Model



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Note to Teachers

If you are reading this note, then you've taken the first step toward giving your students the structures they need to develop their own writing style! The **Write With Style** guide has been designed to provide students with sentence structure models to use in writing. The style structures can be taught individually or grouped together and should be reinforced with class novels, literature, and text.

Suggestions For Use

Students need a variety of tools to become effective writers. And, as teachers we have to talk to students about the structure of writing if we want them to recognize and produce great writing. This style guide makes it easy for you to do just that! Each page of the workbook introduces a new style structure listed in alphabetical order. Feel free to teach the structures in the order that best suits your student and classroom needs. Students are given a **definition**, **sentence example**, and **prompt** to model the structure. **There is **no** prerequisite for teaching writing style structures. Students do not have to receive a formal lesson on prepositions or participles, for example, to use the structure styles using those elements. You will be surprised how quickly they catch on to these patterns!*

At the end of this workbook you will find four writing assignments that incorporate different style structures in addition to grading rubrics for each. I have given you the option of determining the point value for the style structures including points given for capitalization, spelling, and punctuation as an option.

Happy writing!

Melissa

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ABSOLUTE

One type of **ABSOLUTE** (in its basic form) is a noun followed by an ING word used together to create a phrase. You can use more than one absolute to begin a sentence. Be sure to use a comma after each absolute phrase.

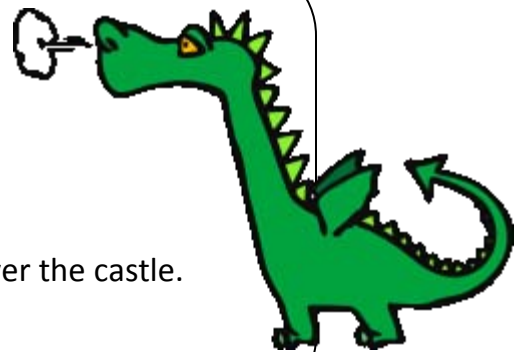
EXAMPLE: **Legs shaking, heart pounding,** the warrior raised his sword and faced his fears.

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

The dragon flew over the castle.

We can add an **absolute phrase** like this...

Wings flapping, nostrils flaring, the dragon flew over the castle.



It's your turn to create a sentence using an **absolute**!

The king commanded his army.

Write your own sentence example.

ADVERB FOR EFFECT

An **ADVERB** is a word that modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb. When used in dialogue, the adverb shows the reader **how** the character spoke.

EXAMPLE: “Mom, I won first place at the school science fair!” Taylor announced **proudly**.



Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

“This is the last chance to turn in homework,” Mrs. Daniels said.

We can add an **adverb for effect** like this...

“This is the last chance to turn in homework,” Mrs. Daniels said sternly.

It's your turn to create a sentence using an **adverb for effect**!

“Everyone made a 100 on the spelling test today,” Mr. Harris said.

Write your own sentence example.

ADJECTIVE BEGINNING

An **adjective** is a word that describes nouns or pronouns. Use an adjective (followed by a comma) as the first word in a sentence to describe the character at a particular moment in time

EXAMPLE: **Terrified**, I closed my eyes and hoped the ride would end soon.
Shivering, I pulled the hood of my sweatshirt over my head.



Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

Mason stood in line to buy his ticket for the concert.

We can add an **adjective beginning** like this...



Excited, Mason stood in line to buy his ticket for the concert.

It's your turn to create a sentence using an **adjective beginning**!

I used all of my strength to complete the marathon.

Write your own sentence example.

APPOSITIVE

An **APPOSITIVE** is a phrase, set off by commas, that gives the reader more information about the noun in the sentence. The appositive can be placed at the beginning, middle, or end of a sentence.

EXAMPLE: Max, **the best baseball player in his school**, scored the winning run.
The best baseball player in his school, Max scored the winning run.

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

Katy led the volleyball team to the state championship game.

We can add an **appositive** like this...

Katy, **our senior captain**, led the volleyball team to the state championship game.



It's your turn to create a sentence using an **appositive**!

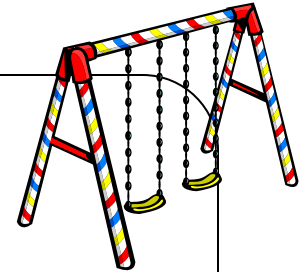
Our coach taught us the skills we needed to be successful.

Write your own sentence example.

CLIFFHANGER

A **CLIFFHANGER**— is a powerful sentence at the end of a paragraph or chapter that leaves the reader with a strong feeling of suspense or anticipation.

EXAMPLE: Boom! The sound echoed throughout the gym. We turned around, **not prepared for what was about to happen next.**



Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

Becky was a friend who was never late.

We can add a **cliffhanger** like this...

Becky was a friend who was never late. When she didn't show up at the playground, I knew something was terribly wrong.

It's your turn to create a sentence using a cliffhanger!

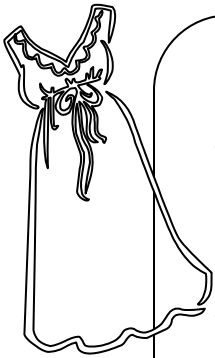
It was the first day of summer vacation. We jumped into the car and drove to the lake.

Write your own sentence example.

DASH

A **dash** (–) is used to set off additional information within a sentence to show emphasis, pause for effect, or to indicate missing words or ideas.

EXAMPLE: What she said was true – or so I thought!



Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

The orphan's dress looked more like a night gown.

We can add a **dash** like this...

The orphan's dress looked more like a night gown – **a homemade nightgown.**

It's your turn to create a sentence using a **dash**!

The streets were no place for a young boy.

Write your own sentence example.

DESCRIPTIVE DIALOGUE VERB

A **descriptive dialogue verb** is a verb that reveals the feelings and reactions of the speaker and is used after the dialogue in a sentence. When using dialogue, pay careful attention to quotation and other punctuation marks.

EXAMPLE: "I want a full refund!" **demanded** the unhappy customer.

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

"My birthday cake looks amazing!" said Shayla .

We can add a **descriptive dialogue verb** like this...

"My birthday cake looks amazing!" **shouted** Shayla.



It's your turn to create a sentence using a **descriptive dialogue verb**!

"What I am about to tell you is a secret," said Taylor.

Write your own sentence example.

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Figurative Language is language with a meaning that is different than the actual meaning and is used to create strong images and make comparisons and connections. These might include: *simile*, *metaphor*, *personification*, *alliteration*, *onomatopoeia*, and *hyperbole*.

EXAMPLE: His arms and legs were as **thin as toothpicks**. (simile)
His arms and legs **were toothpicks**. (metaphor)
The sun **smiled** down on the children playing outside. (personification)
Tommy turtle timidly tried to teach the rabbit. (alliteration)
Tick tock goes the clock on the wall. (onomatopoeia)
I'm so hungry **I could eat a horse!** (hyperbole)

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

The football passed through the air.

We can add **figurative language** like this...

The football was a **speeding bullet**. (metaphor)



It's your turn to create a sentence using **figurative language**!

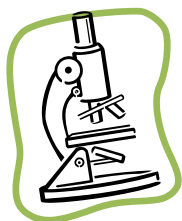
My heart beat loudly.

Write your own sentence example.

IDIOMS

Idioms are phrases or expressions with hidden meanings. Idioms are used by native language speakers to emphasize or add effect. There are many idioms you can use in your writing. Brainstorm examples of idioms with your teacher.

EXAMPLE: Those tickets cost me **an arm and a leg**. (tickets were very expensive)
That problem is only **a drop in the bucket**. (a small part of the problem)
My dad is **all bark and no bite**. (full of talk but not much action)

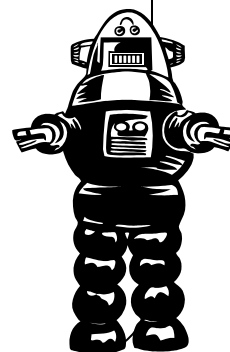


Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

Our science project failed so we must start over.

We can add an **idiom** like this...

Our science project failed so we **are back to square one**.



It's your turn to create a sentence using an **idiom for the underlined part of the sentence!**

At the competition last week my friends and I were very nervous.

Write your own sentence example.

INVERTED ORDER ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are words that modify or describe nouns or pronouns and usually appear before the word modified. Adjectives answer the questions “which one? what kind? or how many?” **Inverted adjectives** are adjectives that have been inverted or placed out of natural order in the sentence.

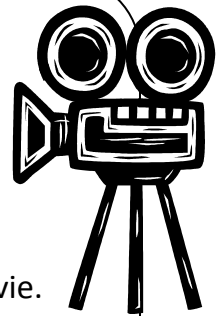
EXAMPLE: The amateur singer, **talented and poised**, performed on stage for the first time.

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

My favorite actor plays the lead in the movie.

We can add an **inverted order adjective** like this...

My favorite actor, **young and popular**, plays the lead in the movie.



It's your turn to create a sentence using an **inverted order adjective**!

The artist accepted her award for best painting in the art show.

Write your own sentence example.

MULTIPLE PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Multiple prepositional phrases can be used at the beginning of a sentence. A prepositional phrase is a group of words that begins with a preposition and ends with an object noun or pronoun. The prepositional phrase can describe by telling “which one?” or answer the questions “where? when? or how?” in a sentence.

EXAMPLE: On that first morning of the new school year, April ate her favorite breakfast.

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

Josh played his electric guitar.

We can add **multiple prepositional phrases** like this...

During spring break near the campfire, Josh played his electric guitar.



It's your turn to create a sentence using **multiple prepositional phrases**!

Dad helped us put on our life jackets.

Write your own sentence example.

PARTICIPLE PHRASE

A **participle phrase** is a group of words that begins with the participle form of a verb (ING) and modifies a noun or pronoun.

EXAMPLE: My neighbor, **peering through an opening in the curtain**, witnessed the robbery across the street.



Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

Kerry finished her social studies homework.

We can add a **participle phrase** like this...

Sitting at the computer, Kerry finished her social studies homework.



It's your turn to create a sentence using a **participle phrase**!

Adrian scored a three-point shot to win the basketball game.

Write your own sentence example.

SPEAKER TAG

A speaker tag is an action phrase (action performed by the speaker) used at the end of dialogue to describe the speaker's actions at that moment.

EXAMPLE: "I'd like a cup of tea now," Mrs. Castillo said **as she sat down in her favorite chair.**

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

"I'm tired of waiting on you," Jake said.

We can add a **speaker tag** like this...

"I'm tired of waiting on you," Jake said slamming the car door shut.



It's your turn to create a sentence using a **speaker tag**!

"Don't forget to take your library card with you," said Mother.

Write your own sentence example.

VIVID VERBS

An action verb is a word that shows action in a sentence. Use specific, vivid action verbs to make your writing more interesting.

EXAMPLE: The boat **lurched** forward and headed toward the shore.

Now let's take a basic sentence and practice!

David went through the doorway and out of the house.

We can add a **vivid verb** like this...

David **rushed** through the doorway and out of the house.



It's your turn to create a sentence using a **vivid verb**!

The horse ran around the race track at the Kentucky Derby.

Write your own sentence example.



ASSIGNMENT 1

Your assignment is to write a paragraph about the two horses in the picture. Use the following sentence styles in your paragraph. Highlight and label each example in the writing.

1. Absolute
2. Figurative language
3. Dash
4. Vivid Verbs
5. Appositive

NAME _____

DATE _____



ASSIGNMENT 2

Your assignment is to write a paragraph about the picture of the man and boy. Use the following sentence styles in your paragraph. Highlight and label each example in the writing.

1. Adverb for effect
2. Adjective beginning
3. Speaker tag
4. Descriptive dialogue verb
5. Figurative language

NAME _____

DATE _____



ASSIGNMENT 3

Your assignment is to write a paragraph about the house in the picture. Use the following sentence styles in your paragraph. Highlight and label each example in the writing.

1. Multiple prepositional phrases
2. Participle phrase
3. Idiom
4. Vivid verb
5. Cliffhanger

NAME _____

DATE _____



ASSIGNMENT 4

Your assignment is to write a paragraph about the football players in the picture. Use the following sentence styles in your paragraph. Highlight and label each example in the writing.

1. Inverted order adjectives
2. Absolute
3. Vivid verb
4. Participle phrase
5. Figurative language

NAME _____

DATE _____

Rubric for Assignment 1

Each style you use in your paragraph is worth points!

Name_____

Date_____

_____Absolute

Comments, Questions, and Kudos!

_____Appositive

_____Dash

_____Figurative Language

_____Vivid Verbs

_____Mechanics: Spelling, capitalization, punctuation

_____TOTAL POINTS

_____Final Grade

Rubric for Assignment 2

Each style you use in your paragraph is worth points!

Name_____

Date_____

_____Adverb for effect

Comments, Questions, and Kudos!

_____Adjective beginning

_____Speaker tag

_____Descriptive dialogue verb

_____Figurative language

_____Mechanics: Spelling, capitalization, punctuation

_____TOTAL POINTS

_____Final Grade

Rubric for Assignment 3

Each style you use in your paragraph is worth points!

Name_____

Date_____

_____Multiple prepositional phrases

Comments, Questions, and Kudos!

_____Participle phrase

_____Idiom

_____Vivid verbs

_____Cliffhanger

_____Mechanics: Spelling, capitalization, punctuation

_____TOTAL POINTS

_____Final Grade

Rubric for Assignment 4

Each style you use in your paragraph is worth points!

Name_____

Date_____

_____Inverted order adjectives

Comments, Questions, and Kudos!

_____Absolute

_____Vivid verb

_____Participle phrase

_____Figurative language

_____Mechanics: Spelling, capitalization, punctuation

_____TOTAL POINTS

_____Final Grade
